15 April 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: Deputy Director for Plans

SUBJECT: Thomas Buchanan's Articles and Book on the Assassination of President Kennedy

1. This memorandum recommends action by the DCI as contained in paragraph 3.

2. Thomas Buchanan, an American citizen for many years resident in France, was at one time a reporter for the Washington Evening Star by which newspaper he was discharged for alleged Communist ties. He has been the author of a series of articles which have appeared among other places in L'Express in Paris which have received circulation not only in Europe but also in some places of Africa and Latin America. The articles, which contend that the assassination of President Kennedy was a rightist plot, have appealed to the thinking of many liberals to a degree which has become of serious concern to Carl Rowan of USIA and to the State Department. An expanded version of the articles has now been prepared in book form and will be published at the end of this month in France by the Julliard Publishing Company. Secker and Warburg in London are rushing an English edition which they hope to have on sale by 15 May. It is also understood that the book has been offered for publication to both Houghton-Mifflin and Alfred Knopf. Since Houghton-Mifflin is already doing two other books on Kennedy with the support of the U.S. Government and would not publish the Buchanan book immediately, it is probable that Knopf will get the rights; Curtis Brown, 575 Madison Avenue, New York City, is understood to be the literary agency involved. In addition to the Buchanan book, Julliard in Paris will reportedly publish another book "Les Roses Rouges de Dallas" by Moses Gun (believed to be a Hungarian), a U.S. correspondent of the Italian magazine Epoca. Mr. Gun was allegedly in the car following the Kennedy vehicle in Dallas and his book is described as "devastating". A British edition will be published by Frederick Muller of 110 Fleet Street, London.

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3. It is suggested that you may wish to discuss with Chief Justice Warren this afternoon the continuing tide of public speculation regarding the assassination which will be further stimulated by these publications. CIA's efforts to counter Buchanan's and similar articles have, of necessity, been limited to a straight-forward account of public facts and to point out, in the case of Buchanan, that he has not been physically in the United States for a number of years and that all of his source material is at best second-hand in nature. Little else can be done until the official findings of the Warren Commission are made public.

cc: DDCI

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